

REMARKS

Claims 48-53 are pending. Claims 1-47 have been cancelled. New claims 48-53 have been added. Claims 48-53 are directed to a method of preparing certain intermediate compounds. This method is disclosed in the specification; no new matter has been added. These claims were previously presented in the parent application (U.S. Application No. 10/436,905) via a preliminary amendment. The Examiner restricted the claims in the preliminary amendment to the parent application (10/436,905) to inventions I and II. A copy of this restriction with the Date Mailed of 8/14/2003 is attached for the Examiner's convenience. Invention I (claims 48-55) is presently allowed in the parent application (10/436,905). The claims presented here are the claims of invention II (previously presented as claims 56-61), which were cancelled without prejudice to being filed in a divisional application.

Examination and consideration of the application as amended is requested, and allowance of claims 48-53 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

9 DECEMBER 2003
Date

By: Dean A. Ersfeld
Dean A. Ersfeld, Reg. No. 46,689
Telephone No.: (651) 733-7830

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company

Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833